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and no sounds of living rats had been heard after October 21. This would seem to suggest that the rats of the police buildings were first attacked and those of the stables infected by them. There was a rat run, through defects in the intervening gable, between the spaces behind the plaster and beneath the floors of the police station buildings and the stable loft. The earlier development of the disease among the rats of the police buildings suggests that it was not imported to the stable in the sacks of grain from time to time stored therein. All the rats found in the bakery stables had been cremated in the boiler furnace thereof.

The situation of these buildings is fully a mile westward of the area in which the two patients resided.

The fact that one of the patients was a rag worker and that the sister of the other was employed in the same works directed attention to the rag store as a possible source of infection. Home rags only were dealt with, but it is obvious that rags may reach the merchant under this designation which in reality are foreign in their origin, in the sense that they have formed the clothing of some recently arrived immigrant or returned seaman.

The building in which the work of the rag store is carried on is of four stories. The ground floor is used almost wholly for the unpacking of bales as they come in and for the final repacking for export; the first and second floors are devoted largely to storage purposes, while on the upper floors only manufacturers' rags, which are new, are handled.

The girl who died of plague and the sister of the boy who was sick with the disease worked on the bottom floor of the building. Two tenements which had formed back lands between the houses occupied by the boy and the girl had been demolished shortly before the cases occurred, and many rats were in consequence displaced.

HAWAII.

Reports from Honolulu—Case of smallpox on steamship China from Hongkong.

Chief Quarantine Officer Cofer reports, February 29:

The steamship *China* arrived from Hongkong yesterday with a case of varioloid on board in the person of a steerage passenger bound for Honolulu. The case and 100 contacts were placed in quarantine and all the steerage and crew's quarters disinfected. The usual quarantine regulations were carried out.

Examination of rats for plague infection.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Currie reports that during the week ended February 22, 134 rats were examined bacteriologically at the plague laboratory of the Service at Honolulu. No plague infection found.